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PATENT

Our Docket: P-NI 4447

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e Application of Tononi et al.

Serial No.: 09/733,607

Filed: December 8, 2000

For: VIGILANCE NUCLEIC ACIDS AND

RELATED DIAGNOSTIC, SCREENING

AND THERAPEUTIC METHODS

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: P. G. Holbrook

Group Art Unit: 1647

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 21, 2002.

By Melanie K, Webster, Reg. No. 45.201

February 21 2002 Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, enclosed is a reference relating to the above-identified application. For the convenience of the Examiner, this reference is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and a copy is enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that this reference be considered in the examination of this application and that its consideration be made of written record in the application file.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0370.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 21, 2002

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